

December 2, 1924.
January 8, 1925.

*Parcel post convention between the United States of America and Siam.
Signed at Washington, December 2, 1924, and at Bangkok, January 8, 1925; approved by the President, February 25, 1925.*

CONVENTION BETWEEN THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE AD-
MINISTRATION OF POSTS OF SIAM CONCERNING THE
EXCHANGE OF PARCEL POST.

Parcel post conven-
tion with Siam.
Preamble.

The undersigned, Harry S. New, Postmaster General of the United States of America, and Lieutenant General Phya Devahastin, Director General of Posts and Telegraphs of Siam, by virtue of authority vested in them, for the purpose of making better arrangements for a parcel post system of exchange between the two countries, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE I.

Scope of convention.

The provisions of this Convention relate only to parcels to be exchanged by the system herein provided for and do not affect the arrangements now existing under the Universal Postal Convention, which will continue as heretofore; and, all the agreements herein-after contained apply exclusively to mails exchanged under these articles.

ARTICLE II.

Articles admitted to
the mails.

1. There shall be admitted to the mails exchanged under this Convention articles of merchandise and mail matter—except letters and post cards—of all kinds that are admitted under any conditions to the domestic mails of the country of origin and the country of destination except that no packet may exceed eleven pounds (five kilograms) in weight, nor the following dimensions: Greatest length in any direction three feet six inches; greatest combined length and girth, six feet; and must be so wrapped and inclosed as to permit their contents to be easily examined by postmasters and customs officials; and except that the following articles are specially prohibited admission to the mails exchanged under this Convention:

Prohibited articles.

Publications which violate the copyright laws of the country of destination; poisons and explosive or inflammable substances; intoxicating liquors; opium in any form or any preparation or derivative thereof, cocaine or other narcotics; any obscene book, pamphlet, paper, writing, advertisement, circular, print, picture, drawing or other representation, figure, or image on or of paper or other material, or any cast, instrument, or other article whatever for the prevention of conception or for causing unlawful abortion; any lottery ticket or any advertisement of any lottery; live or dead animals, except dead insects and reptiles when thoroughly dried; fruits and vegetables and other articles which easily decompose and de-

teriorate; and substances which exhale a bad odor; articles which may in any way damage or destroy the mails or injure the persons handling them.

In addition, the following articles are prohibited transmission through the mails into the United States: Films or pictorial representations of prize fights; plumage or skins of wild birds, except for scientific or educational purposes; and all articles manufactured wholly or in part in a foreign country by convict labor.

Additional, into United States.

With respect to Siam, the following articles, in addition, are prohibited: Firearms, air-guns and all accessories to firearms and air-guns; also ammunition.

Into Siam.

Each country will supply, from time to time, a list of articles that may hereafter become prohibited, or, being removed from the prohibited list, become acceptable through the mails exchanged under these articles.

Subsequent changes to be supplied.

Every article imported into the United States which is capable of being marked, stamped, branded or labeled, without injury, at the time of its manufacture or production, shall be marked, stamped, branded, or labeled, in legible English words, in a conspicuous place that shall not be covered or obscured by any subsequent attachments or arrangements, so as to indicate the country of origin; such marking, stamping, branding or labeling shall be as nearly indelible and permanent as the nature of the article will permit.

Marking required.

2. All admissible articles of merchandise mailed in one country for the other, or received in one country from the other, shall be free from any detention or inspection whatsoever, except such as is required in connection with the treatment by customs officers and for the collection of customs duties; and shall be forwarded promptly to their destination, being subject in their transmission to the laws and regulations of each country, respectively.

Freedom from inspection, etc.

ARTICLE III.

1. A letter or communication of the nature of personal correspondence must not accompany, be written on, or inclosed with any parcel.

Letters not to accompany parcels.

2. If such be found, the letter will be placed in the mails, if separable, or, if the communication be inseparably attached, the whole package will be rejected. If, however, any such parcel should inadvertently be forwarded, the country of destination will collect on the letter or letters double rates of postage, according to the rates prescribed by the Universal Postal Convention.

Rejection if found, etc.

3. No parcel may contain packages intended for delivery at an address other than that borne by the parcel itself. If such inclosed packages be detected, they must be sent forward singly, charged with new and distinct parcel post rates.

No inclosure for other address.

ARTICLE IV.

1. The following rates of postage must in all cases be fully prepaid, viz:

Rates of postage.

2. In the United States for a parcel not exceeding one pound in weight, 12 cents; and for each additional pound or fraction of a pound, 12 cents.

In United States.

3. In Siam 95 satangs (about 35 cents gold) for parcels up to 1 pound in weight, and 40 satangs (13 cents gold) for each additional pound.

In Siam.

4. The parcels shall be promptly delivered to addressees in accordance with the domestic regulations of the country of destination, free of charge for postage; but the country of destination may,

Delivery.

at its option, levy and collect from the addressees, for domestic service and delivery, a charge, the amount of which should be fixed according to its domestic regulations, but which shall in no case exceed 25 centimes (gold), or the equivalent of that sum in the money of the country of destination, for each parcel whatever its weight.

Customs charges.

5. Every parcel shall be subject, in the country of destination, to all customs duties and all customs regulations in force in that country for the protection of its customs revenues; and the customs and other duties properly chargeable thereon shall be collected on delivery, in accordance with the customs regulations of the country of destination.

ARTICLE V.

Descriptive list.

1. The sender of each parcel shall prepare a customs declaration, to be securely attached to the parcel, upon a special form provided for the purpose, giving a general description of the parcel, an accurate statement of its contents and value, date of mailing, the sender's signature and address, as well as the name and address of the addressee.

Receipt of posting.

2. The sender will, on request at the time of mailing the parcel, receive a certificate of mailing from the post office where the parcel is mailed, on a form provided for the purpose.

Registry.

3. The sender of a parcel may have the same registered by paying in addition to the postage the registration fee regularly charged in the country of origin.

Acknowledgment of delivery.

4. An acknowledgment of the delivery of a registered parcel shall be returned to the sender when request is made for such receipt at the time of mailing.

ARTICLE VI.

Inability to deliver.

Senders of parcels in either country may provide for their alternative disposition when they are not delivered at the first address to which directed. This may be done by the senders making a request by an indorsement in writing on the wrapper or by means of a paster attached thereto, in one or other of the following forms:

- (a) If undeliverable as addressed, deliver to ———.
- (b) If undeliverable as addressed, abandon.
- (c) If undeliverable as addressed, return to sender.

Return.

Except as otherwise provided, undeliverable parcels will be returned to the senders at the expiration of 30 days from the date of receipt at the post office of destination, while refused parcels will be returned at once, the parcels in each case to be marked to show the reason for non-delivery. All returned parcels will be subject on delivery to the senders to the collection of any charges that may accrue thereon.

Parcels not to be returned.

However, the following described parcels need not be returned to the country of origin, but may be disposed of, without recourse, in accordance with the customs laws and regulations of the country of destination:

Note, p. 1880.

(a) Parcels which do not conform to the conditions as to size and weight prescribed by Article II.

(b) Parcels containing articles prohibited by Article II and other prohibited importations.

(c) Parcels containing articles subject to seizure as being imported or brought into the United States in any manner contrary to law, including articles subject to seizure under the customs laws because of a false or fraudulent invoice or declaration covering the same or for any willful act or omission on the part of the sender or addressee or agent by means whereof the United States shall or may be deprived of the lawful duties.

(d) All parcels of which the addressee refuses to take delivery or declines to make formal entry when requested by the customs officer in cases where the appraised value exceeds the value shown in the declaration of entry, and where evidence of fraudulent intent is shown.

The particulars of the disposition of each parcel shall be communicated by one postal administration to the other.

2. Parcels which it has not been possible to deliver and which are liable to deterioration or corruption may, however, be sold immediately, without previous notice or legal formality, for the benefit of the person entitled thereto, the particulars of the sale being reported by one Administration to the other. The proceeds of the sale shall be devoted to paying the charges on the parcel; the remainder, if any, shall be sent to the office of origin to be paid to the sender. If for any reason a sale is impossible, the spoiled or worthless articles are destroyed or handed over to the customs.

Perishable articles.

3. With the reservation that the formalities prescribed for administrative reasons by the Administrations concerned be complied with, the customs duties on parcels which have to be sent back to the country of origin or redirected to a third country shall be canceled both in the United States and in Siam.

Canceling of customs duties.

4. Missent parcels shall be immediately returned to the dispatching office of exchange. Attention shall be called to the error by means of a Bulletin of Verification.

Missent parcels.

5. Parcels which are abandoned by the senders will not be returned to origin, but will be disposed of in accordance with the regulations of the country of destination.

Abandoned parcels.

ARTICLE VII.

The Postal Administration of the United States shall pay to the Postal Administration of Siam 1.75 francs gold for each parcel forwarded from the United States to Siam, and the Postal Administration of Siam shall pay a similar amount to the Postal Administration of the United States for each parcel forwarded from Siam to the United States.

Mutual payments by postal authorities.

At the end of each quarter, the postal administration of the creditor country shall submit to the postal administration of the debtor country an account in duplicate showing the number of parcels dispatched by each country as indicated by the parcel bills and the balance resulting from such transaction. After verification, the amount of the balance shall be paid in money of the United States by means of a bill of exchange on New York payable at sight. Payments may also be made in cash or by means of bills of exchange drawn on places other than New York by mutual agreement between the two countries. Conversion of francs into United States currency shall be at the rate of gold francs 5.1825 equals one dollar.

Quarterly statements.

Payments.

ARTICLE VIII.

1. The parcels shall be considered as a component part of the mails exchanged between the United States and Siam to be dispatched to destination by the country of origin at its cost and by such means as it provides; but must be forwarded, at the option of the despatching office, either in receptacles prepared expressly for the purpose or in ordinary mail sacks, marked "Parcel Post", and securely sealed with a lead seal or otherwise, as may be mutually provided by regulations hereunder.

Method of transportation.

2. Each country shall promptly return empty to the despatching office, by next mail, all such sacks or receptacles.

Return of empty sacks.

Exchange offices.

3. The exchanges shall be effected through the post offices of both countries already designated as exchange post offices, or through such other offices as may be hereafter agreed upon, under such regulations relative to the details of the exchange as may be mutually determined to be essential to the security and expedition of the mails and the protection of the customs revenues.

Packing.

4. Although articles admitted under this Convention will be transmitted as aforesaid between the exchange offices, they should be so carefully packed as to be safely transmitted in the open mails of either country, both in going to the exchange office in the country of origin and to the office of address in the country of destination.

Descriptive list.

5. Each despatch of a parcel post mail must be accompanied by a descriptive list in duplicate of all the parcels sent, and which must be inclosed in one of the sacks of such despatch.

ARTICLE IX.

Receipt of mails.

1. As soon as the mail shall have reached the office of destination, that office shall check the contents of the mail.

Substitute parcel bill.

2. In the event of the parcel bill not having been received, a substitute should be prepared at once.

Correction of errors.

3. Any errors in the entries on the parcel bill which may be discovered shall, after verification by a second officer, be corrected and noted for report to the despatching office on a form "Bulletin of Verification" which should be sent in a special envelope.

Nonreceipt of parcel.

4. If a parcel advised on the bill be not received, after the nonreceipt has been verified by a second officer, the entry on the bill should be canceled and the fact reported at once.

Deficient postage.

5. If a parcel be observed to be insufficiently prepaid, it must not be taxed with deficient postage, but the circumstance must be reported on a "Bulletin of Verification" form.

Damaged parcels.

6. Should a parcel be received in damaged or imperfect condition, full particulars should be reported on the same form.

Presumption of delivery.

7. If no "Bulletin of Verification" or note of error be received, a parcel mail shall be considered as duly delivered, having been found on examination correct in all respects.

ARTICLE X.

Nonresponsibility for loss, etc.

Neither of the contracting Administrations will be responsible for the loss or damage of any parcel, consequently no indemnity can be claimed by the sender or addressee in either country.

ARTICLE XI.

Further regulations, etc.

The Postmaster General of the United States of America, and the Director General of Posts of Siam, shall have authority jointly to make such further regulations of order and detail and to provide for such changes and modifications from time to time as may be found necessary to carry out the purpose of the present Convention.

ARTICLE XII.

Effect. Former Convention abrogated. Vol. 42, p. 2107.

This Convention, which substitutes and abrogates the Convention signed in Washington on the 24th day of February, 1922, and in Bangkok on the 15th day of October, 1922, shall become effective as of September 1, 1924, and shall continue in force until terminated by mutual agreement; but it may be annulled at the desire of either Department upon six months' previous notice being given to the other.

Done in duplicate and signed at Washington the 2^d day of December, 1924, and at Bangkok the 8th day of January 1925. Signatures.

HARRY S. NEW.

The Postmaster General of the United States of America. [SEAL.]

PHYA DEVAHASTIN.

The Director General of Posts and Telegraphs of Siam. [SEAL.]

The foregoing Parcel Post Convention between the United States of America and Siam has been negotiated and concluded with my advice and consent and is hereby approved and ratified. Approval by the President.

[SEAL.] In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

By the President

CHARLES E. HUGHES,
Secretary of State.

WASHINGTON, *February 25, 1925.*